From: <u>Barnes, Jennifer (EOIR)</u>

To: Dinetz Christiansen, Rachel; Alder Reid, Lauren (EOIR); All of BIA (EOIR); All of Court Administrators (EOIR); All

of Judges (EOIR); All of OCIJ HDQ (EOIR); Anderson, Jill (EOIR); Apolito, Ingrid (EOIR); Barnes, Jennifer (EOIR); Barry, Robert (EOIR); Burgie, Brea (EOIR); Cicolini, Pietro (EOIR); Cunningham, Jennifer L. (EOIR); David Vignol; Dever, Jeanette; Don Lewis; List Admin, ProBono (EOIR); Ellen Garber; Gray, Gracie (EOIR); Harris, Alethea (EOIR); Jennifer McGraw; John Kelley (john.kelley@calbar.ca.gov); Kier, Diane (EOIR); Kuiken, Celia (EOIR); McDowell, Ben (EOIR); Michael Jordan; Michael Zachary; Mittelstadt, Matthew James. (EOIR); Nieves, Manuel A. (EOIR); Noferi, Mark (EOIR); Noonen, John; O"Connell, Catherine; Park, Jeannie (EOIR); Peter Shaw; Piateski, Jennifer E (jennifer.e.piateski@uscis.dhs.gov); Ramirez, Sergio (EOIR); Rich, John (EOIR); Rimmer, Phillip (EOIR); Rodrigues, Paul A. (EOIR); Ruffino, Lou (EOIR); Silber, Rachel; Vick, Lindsay (EOIR);

Wade, Catherine; Williams, Tiffany (EOIR)

Subject: Recently disciplined attorneys and updated list

Date: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 3:55:42 PM

Attachments: Atty Discipline Chart Primary (2) .docx

Please see the attached document for a list of currently disciplined practitioners as of March 28, 2018. I would ask each Court Administrator to post this list in a conspicuous place in order to inform the public of the status of these practitioners. This list will be updated as orders are issued by the Board of Immigration Appeals or the Immigration Courts. Names of reinstated practitioners will be removed from the list after 6 months.

The recently disciplined practitioners are:

Cameron Shahab - On March 28, 2018, the Board issued an order immediately suspending Attorney Shahab based on his disbarment in Georgia for multiple violations of the state's rules of professional conduct, including conduct lacking diligence, failure to communicate, and engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation.

Confidential Discipline - Since the last update, the EOIR Disciplinary Counsel has issued confidential discipline to 12 practitioners for the following misconduct: filing a frivolous brief with the Board (2); engaging in conduct lacking competence in filing a motion to reopen (2); failing to file a brief with the Board after indicating that a brief would be filed (2); filing a brief with the Board with facts and arguments pertaining to a different alien; filing a frivolous asylum application with the court; engaging in contumelious conduct in immigration court; filing a joint motion to reopen that wasn't signed by the opposing party; failing to timely file applications for relief with the Court; and, repeatedly failing to appear for scheduled hearings in a timely manner without good cause.

The EOIR Disciplinary Counsel has been informed of the recent death of Attorney Howard Johnson of Los Angeles, California.

EOIR's Attorney Discipline Program now has a dedicated e-mail address that EOIR employees may use to report misconduct by private immigration practitioners. The e-mail address is <u>EOIR.AttorneyDiscipline@EOIR.usdoj.gov</u> and appears in the global address list as EOIR Attorney Discipline (EOIR).

Please note that pursuant to Chapter 10.9 of the Immigration Court Practice Manual and Chapter 11.10 of the Board of Immigration Appeals' Practice Manual, a disciplined practitioner is obligated to advise all clients whose cases are pending before the Immigration Court or the Board that he or she has been disciplined. The Immigration Court Practice Manual further states: "Once a practitioner has been expelled or suspended [by an order issued by the Board or an Adjudicating Official,] the practitioner's pending cases are deemed unrepresented. The Immigration Court rejects filings that are submitted by a practitioner after he or she has been expelled or suspended [by an order issued by the Board or an Adjudicating Official.]" (Emphasis added.) The Board's Practice Manual has a similar provision. Therefore, a disciplined practitioner has no authority to

make any requests, including motions for continuances, in any of his or her former clients' cases, and the Immigration Courts and the Board do not, and should not, deal with a disciplined practitioner concerning his or her former clients' cases.

Also please note that if a practitioner is suspended or expelled, he or she may resume representation of former clients only after the Board issues an order granting reinstatement. Furthermore, they are then required to enter a new Notice of Entry of Appearance form in each case, even if he or she was the attorney at the time that discipline was imposed. Immigration Court Practice Manual Ch. 10.10(d); Board's Practice Manual Ch. 11.10(b), 11.12(c); EOIR Rules of Professional Conduct, 8 C.F.R. § 1003.107(c).

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I am retiring on April 1, 2018. After that date, please contact Acting Disciplinary Counsel Paul Rodrigues at <u>paul.a.rodrigues@usdoj.gov</u> or email EOIR's Attorney Discipline mailbox at <u>EOIR.AttorneyDiscipline@usdoj.gov</u>.

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